



THE SHIELD

A Monthly Magazine from

State Banks' Staff Union (Chennai Circle)



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TO THE ONE WHO NEVER SETTLES FOR ANYTHING LESS THAN THE BEST



**Hearty Congratulations to our beloved General Secretary
Com. G. KRIPAKARAN
on his elevation as PRESIDENT of our mighty Federation.**

"A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way and shows the way." –John C. Maxwell

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Dear Comrades,

Hearty congratulations on the 69th Bank day. It is proud to be a part of such a huge bank like SBI whose balance sheet is larger than the GDP of 174 countries in the world. Our Balance sheet size is 62 lakh crore, which is equivalent to 21% of India's GDP. Our Bank is 218 years old, started in the year 1806 named as Bank of Bengal. Later Bank of Madras and Bank of Bombay was formed in the respective cities. All 3 Banks merged to form the Presidency Banks. In the year 1929, it was renamed as "Imperial Bank of India. On 1st July, 1955 a special act was passed and thus STATE BANK OF INDIA was born. From then on 1st July has been celebrated as Bank Day. i.e Birthday of SBI.

At the Federation level two of our leaders are laying their service on account of their superannuation from Bank's service. We wish the powerful and versatile President of our Federation Com. Arun Bhagoliwal and the strong and dynamic "Roaring Lion of Banking Industry" our Federation General Secretary Com. Sanjeev K Bandlish a happy, healthy, peaceful and prosperous retired life. We are bound to thank the President and General Secretary for their tremendous efforts in clinching the historic XI and XII Bipartite settlements. Their untiring efforts and selfless services will always be remembered.

At this juncture, we would like to congratulate the General Secretary of Amaravati Circle, Com. L Chandrasekhar on his elevation as the "**General Secretary of All India State Bank of India Staff Federation**". We are confident that his leadership will work for the cause of the members and bring more glories to our Federation. Wishing him all the very best to attain the highest pinnacle of success in all his endeavors.

As you are all aware that the 39th Triennial Conference of our union will be held on 24th and 25th August 2024, we request all of you to actively participate in large numbers and make the event a grand success.



G. KRIPAKARAN
GENERAL SECRETARY

CONGRATULATIONS

TO THE GENERAL SECRETARY

OF AMARAVATI CIRCLE

COM. L. CHANDRASEKHAR

ON HIS ELEVATION AS

GENERAL SECRETARY

OF

ALL INDIA STATE BANK OF INDIA

STAFF FEDERATION



State Banks' Staff Union (Chennai Circle) extends heartiest congratulations to the charismatic leader Com. L. Chandrasekhar on assuming office of our Federation as *General Secretary* from 1st August 2024.

Com. L. Chandrasekhar joined the bank in Onipenta branch at Kadapa district. Being an ardent trade unionist, he was selected as local secretary at the Tirumala Branch.

He was a die-hard follower and supporter of Fmr. Federation *General Secretary* Com. Y. Tharak Nath. He assumed various positions in the union. He was identified by Fmr. Federation *General Secretary* Com. M.V. Muralito assume the position of the *General Secretary* of Amravati Circle.

From then on, his involvement and dedication in the Union and Federation activities elevated him to the post of the Senior Vice-President of the Federation and became the unanimous choice to lead the Federation as *General Secretary*.

56th GENERAL BODY MEETING OF SBISA CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY ODISHA



The 56th General Body Meeting of SBISA Co-operative Society Odisha and a felicitation function was organised at Cuttack on 23rd June 2024. Our *General Secretary* Com. G. Kripakaran was one of the chief guests at the meeting. *General Secretary* Com. G. Kripakaran, *President* Com. V. Sridharan and *Vice-President (HQ)* Khaja Fakrudeen participated in the meeting.

“ADIEU TO THE ROARING LION OF THE BANKING INDUSTRY COM. SANJEEV K BANDLISH”

Our beloved Federation General Secretary Com. Sanjeev K. Bandlish has proven himself to be an exceptional leader, mirroring the legacy of his esteemed father, Late Shri K.K. Bandlish. His leadership within the State Bank of India Staff Association (SBISA) Chandigarh Circle and his pivotal role in the Federation are testament to his dedication and vision.

A fervent advocate for employee welfare, Com. S.K. Bandlish has significantly enhanced various welfare schemes for our members. His relentless efforts ensure that employees benefit from improved conditions and opportunities, reflecting his unwavering commitment to their well-being.

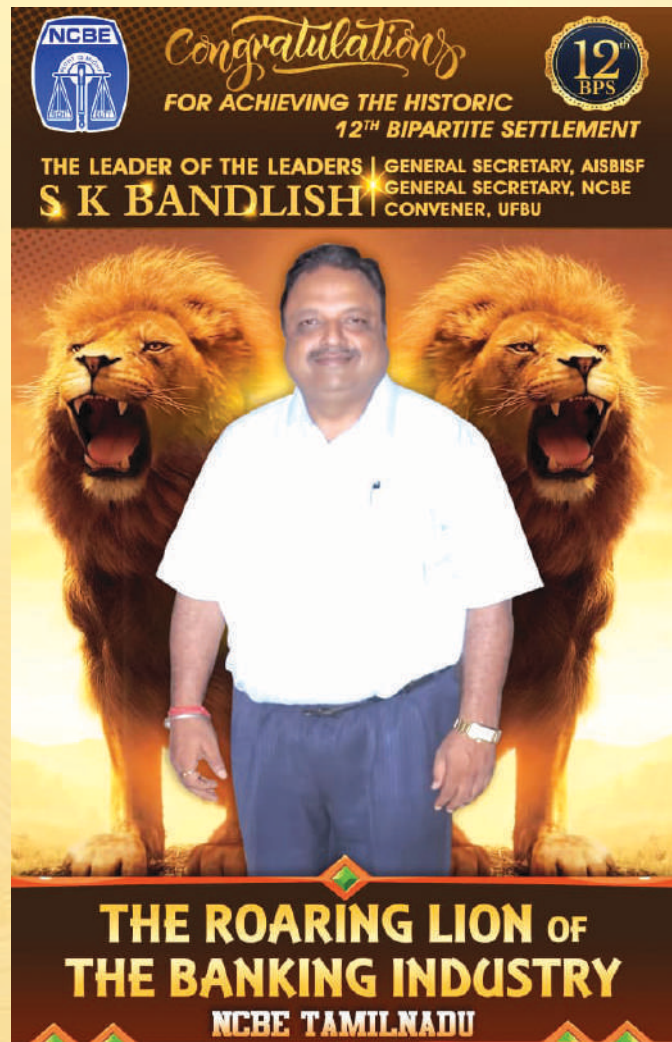
Beyond his administrative acumen, Com. Bandlish is a keen sports enthusiast. His initiative to include new disciplines in SBI's All India Inter Circle Tournaments has not only promoted sports but also facilitated numerous sports recruitments, benefiting players across the Nation.

Com. Bandlish, in his capacity as Defence Representative has played a crucial role in disciplinary proceedings by attending nearly 250 departmental enquiry cases and he has saved countless innocent employees from unjust management actions, showcasing his dedication to justice and fairness.

One of Com. Bandlish's most admired qualities is his exceptional negotiating skills and his proficiency was prominently displayed during the 11th and 12th Bipartite settlements with the Indian Banks' Association (IBA), which resulted in good benefits and improvements for bank employees, significantly enhancing their quality of life.

Com. Bandlish's oratory skills are legendary. Whenever he addresses a gathering, he captivates his audience, his voice resonating with the authority and presence of a lion. His remarkable memory allows him to recall and articulate information with the precision of a computer, further augmenting his effectiveness as a leader.

We acknowledge his contributions; we also extend our best wishes for a long, peaceful, and active retired life to Com. Sanjeev K. Bandlish.



FAREWELL TO AN AMAZING LEADER COM. ARUN BHAGOLIWAL



Our beloved leader Com. Arun Bhagoliwal, President of our dear Federation and General Secretary of SBIASEU, Bhopal Circle, is a well mannered and an amazing leader, who moved cordially with all Comrades, showering his love, affection and care. A disciplined leader with high standards, he was instrumental in recreating the Bhopal Circle Union after facing initial struggles. He passionately built his circle union, brick by brick to its present stature. He countered every obstacle that came his way with determination. A silent worker with sheer dedication and commitment towards the Organisation, he held various positions from 1993 at Circle level and gradually elevated himself to All India level and attain the pivotal position of President of AISBISF form March 2021.

Com. Arun Bhagoliwal extended solid support to our dynamic leader Com. Sanjeev Kumar Bandlish, General Secretary of our Federation especially during the XI and XII Bipartite Settlements and all our Bank level settlements, as his co-architect. Both the leaders as President & General Secretary of our Federation proved to be a rare combination of Success and Strength. It is a rare combination that they are retiring together on 31.07.2024.

A tireless person and a selfless leader, Com. Arun Bhagoliwal was a guiding force for all the younger executives of our federation. As a basket ball player, he was always a team-man. We held in high esteem, our association with Com. Arun Bhagoliwal and shall always cherish our memories forever. We wish Com. Arun Bhagoliwal and his family, a wonderful second innings with robust health and an abundance of happiness.

TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE OF GANDHI NAGAR (AHMEDABAD) CIRCLE

Triennial conference of Gandhi Nagar Circle was conducted at Surat on 30th June 2024. In which our General Secretary Com. G. Kripakaran was felicitated along with Com. Sanjeev K Bandlish and Com. Arun Bhagoliwal.



VICTORIOUS JUBILATION OF 12TH BIPARTITE SETTLEMENT

A fitting felicitation program was organized by Amaravati Circle for Com. Sanjeev K Bandlish and Com. Arun Bhagoliwal at Tirupati on 16th June 2024 for signing the historic XII Bipartite Settlement. Our General Secretary and Senior Vice-President of our Federation Com. G Kripakaran was also felicitated. Members from all over the circle participated and made the event a grand gala.



GRATITUDE TOWARDS THE ORGANISATION FROM A SENIOR MEMBER COM. B. RAJAGOPALAN



Due to the persistent efforts of our Union and Federation payment of ex-gratia for pensioners was clinched in the XII Bipartite Settlement.

As a token of love and affection Com. B. Rajagopalan aged 75, who had joined the bank on 6th February 1970 and retired voluntarily from Bank's service on 31st March 2001 as Special Assistant had donated Rs. 2000/- towards SBSU (CC) to express his gratitude towards the organisation.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AT SURAT OF ALL INDIA STATE BANK OF INDIA STAFF FEDERATION

The Executive Committee meeting of All India State Bank of India Staff Federation (AISBISF) met at Surat on 29th June 2024 and discussed on various subjects. Our General Secretary Com. G. Kripakaran, President Com. V. Sridharan and Vice-President (HQ) Khaja Fakrudeen participated in the meeting.



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF ALL INDIA STATE BANK OF INDIA STAFF FEDERATION AT BANGALORE

The Executive Committee meeting of All India State Bank of India Staff Federation (AISBISF) was held at Bangalore on 2nd June 2024. Our General Secretary Com. G. Kripakaran, President Com. V. Sridharan and Vice-President (HQ) Khaja Fakrudeen participated in the meeting in which various issues were deliberated.



EDITORIAL

Editor in Chief - **Com. V. Sridharan** - President

Associate Editors:

1. **Com. Emmanuel Elaventhana** - Vice-President (HQ)
2. **Com. Habeeb Rahiman A** - Deputy General Secretary, Chennai - 1
3. **Com. Usha U** - Assistant General Secretary, Zone - 2
4. **Com. Ananthakrishnan S** - Ex-Servicemen Representative



SALUTE

"A true soldier fights not because he hates what is in front of him, but because he loves what is behind him." - Grenadier Yogendra Singh Yadav (youngest Param Vir Chakra awardee at the age of 19)

Throughout history, India has faced internal and external threats through numerous skirmishes, battles, and wars, significantly shaping and influencing our country. The Kargil War was the last official conflict between India and Pakistan, representing conventional warfare between two nuclear-capable countries. It was fought at high altitudes and was the first televised war in India.

Wars after independence:

India has been involved in several conflicts since gaining independence. These include the Kashmir War (1947-48), the 1962 Indo-China War, the 1965 Indo-Pakistan War, the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War, and the 1999 Kargil War.

The Kargil War, 1999:

Why Kargil?

The Kargil War, better known as the Border War, was fought along the border in the Kargil district of Jammu and Kashmir and areas near Ladakh. Srinagar was just 205 kilometers from Kargil and was connected to Ladakh with the only road. Pakistan planned to cut off Ladakh from the outside world, isolate the Indian army in Siachen, inflict heavy losses on the Indian side, and force India to cede Kashmir. Additionally, the Indian government at that time was a caretaker government.

Operation Badr:

Pakistani soldiers disguised as Kashmiri militants and infiltrated India in an operation named "Operation Badr". By the time India learned about the incursion, they had occupied hilly areas with commanding view over the Srinagar-Leh Highway.

Operation Vijay, Operation Safed Sagar, and Operation Talwar:

Aided by IAF Operation Safed Sagar and Indian Navy's Operation Talwar, Indian Army took up the Himalayan task of reclaiming the occupied posts from Pakistan under Operation Vijay. The war was fought on high altitude mountains, jagged nearly vertical cliffs reaching heights of 16000 to 18000 ft. the daunting task was no match for our soldiers who conquered it with unimaginable courage and sacrifice.

Men of Steel:

The unwavering commitment and courage of the Indian military in the face of certain death is not a myth. Becoming a soldier requires grueling physical training, mental aptitude, loyalty, steadfastness, self-discipline, and

chivalry. They brave extreme weather and stay away from loved ones. Selfishness is not a word you'll find in their dictionary. They not only safeguard our country but also aid in humanitarian and rescue missions worldwide. Many heroes have lost their lives and limbs in this war. Some displayed extraordinary bravery, tilting the war in India's favor. Finally on July 26, last of the Pakistani forces were ousted from our borders. July 26th of every year is celebrated as Kargil Victory Day. Let us remember a few who etched their name in history and will inspire us for generations to come.

Captain Vikram Batra, code name "Sher Shah", despite being severely injured, killed three enemies in close combat and was instrumental in capturing Peak 5140. He went on to recapture another Peak and when an officer was injured, he pushed a fellow soldier aside saying "You have children, step aside". He was killed while clearing the enemy bunkers. He was honoured with the highest medal of honour "Param Vir Chakra" posthumously.

Grenadier Yogendra Singh Yadav was the youngest to be awarded Param Vir Chakra for his bravery at 19. He was part of the platoon that recaptured Tiger Hill and Tololing Top which tilted the war in India's favour. Though hit by several bullets he continued with the mission and provided an opportunity for the rest of the platoon to climb up the cliff. While interviewing for his SSB selection, Captain Manoj Kumar Pandey was asked why he wanted to join the army. He replied that his goal was to win the Param Vir Chakra. Despite being gravely injured in enemy fire, he pressed on with the assault that led to capturing the Jaubar Top and Kahlubar Hill in the Batalik Sector. He was posthumously awarded the Param Vir Chakra.

Our country as a whole is indebted to our soldiers for the rights and liberties we enjoy. With soldiers like the legend Baba Harbajan Singh who is guarding India even after his death, our country will always remain an impenetrable fortress. The sacrifices of the Bravehearts of India and their indomitable spirit will strike fear in our enemies. I take immense pride in having served our ex-servicemen and their families alongside my CPPC team until recently.

On the day of 25th anniversary of Kargil Vijay Divas Day let us vow to honor our soldiers by maintaining peace and unity through our collective strength and solidarity.



S JAYASHREE,
SENIOR ASSOCIATE,
IFB CHENNAI

SALUTE!